# **BROADBANDMATTERS.COM**

Recommended Broadband News from Around the Web



STRONG

FLEXIBLE

FAST

A Broadband Initiative from the <u>Iowa Communications Network</u>



# **CYBERSECURITY**

# Where Next After National Cyber Security Awareness Month?

As we wrap up another National Cyber Security Awareness Month and head into a new decade, it's time to look back and forward to ask what it will take to move the cybersecurity action needle in America?

#### Could the 2020 Census Help Bridge the Digital Divide?

As government agencies and nonprofit groups help prepare communities for the nation's first high-tech Census, digital inclusion advocates see a chance to bridge digital divides that span well past next year's count.

### Here's Why Seattle's Fire Department Is Using AT&T's FirstNet

More than 350,000 people attended Seattle's SeaFair 2019 festival, and for the first time the Seattle Fire Department didn't battle the typical network congestion issues that occur when a large number of people are gathered in one location. The reason behind the smooth sailing is that the Seattle Fire Department is now using FirstNet.

### **Can Consumers Protect Their Online Data? Maybe Not.**

Companies are mining data from online users and policy is lagging on how to manage it. Government officials implement new legislation, only for companies to find a workaround, leaving the consumer defenseless.

# Ransomware 'halts everything' in Connecticut school district

Administrators at Wolcott Public Schools, a K-12 district of five schools in Western Connecticut, announced Thursday they are recovering from a cyberattack that hit their computers during the last week of school last June.

# The Changing Classroom in Utah: Why Digital Teaching Matters

Superintendent David Long of Beaver County Schools remembers clearly the moment he realized just how powerful a tool technology could be for student learning.

# California Blackouts Hit Cellphone Service, Fraying a Lifeline

California's recent power shut-offs, meant to reduce the risk of potentially catastrophic fires, have had an unwelcome side effect. The blackouts have also cut power to many cellphone towers, blocking the main communications source for many in harm's way.

### University of Pennsylvania launches cybersecurity boot camp

Following a national trend, engineering and professional studies schools at the University of Pennsylvania have partnered to offer a new cybersecurity boot camp program that will begin offering courses this November.

# Mastercard launches healthcare products aimed at cybersecurity, predictive analytics

The financial services company best known for its credit cards is launching Mastercard Healthcare Solutions, a collection of software products aimed at tackling perennial pain points in the business of healthcare, officials announced at the HLTH conference in Las Vegas.

#### **USDA Invests \$3.8 Million in Rural Broadband for Virginia Families**

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development announced USDA has invested nearly \$3.8 million in high-speed broadband infrastructure that will create or improve rural e-Connectivity for more than 1,250 rural households in Virginia. This is one of many funding announcements in the first round of USDA's ReConnect Pilot Program investments.

# Facebook takes a first step into personal digital health with checkup reminder and screening tool

Facebook announced this week it is working with U.S. health organizations to offer a new preventive health tool that connects people to health resources and checkup reminders. The new feature will initially focus on cardiovascular health, cancer screening and seasonal flu.

#### Higher education leaders are disconnected from IT issues, survey says

Information technology leaders at all types of higher education institutions are facing challenges in hiring and retaining IT talent due to budget constraints on their departments, according to a campus computing survey presented at an edtech conference last week.

### Crucial need for rural broadband creates inequities in Missouri

Broadband access in Missouri took center stage at an MU engagement week session at the Holiday Inn Executive Center on Thursday morning. Despite federal and state funding going toward expanding broadband in Missouri, many areas are still facing difficulties due to a lack of reliable internet access.

# **Congress Mulls Federal Support for Specialist Consults Via Telehealth**

As proposed, the Specialty Treatment Access and Referrals (STAR) Act would establish a grant program to help healthcare providers develop and launch an eConsult platform.



**BROADBAND STRONG:** Delivering **FLEXIBLE** broadband and **FAST** experiences to meet the growing broadband needs of education, government, public safety, and healthcare in lowa.